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OC-0775-P7

21 DEC 1987

OIT/TRIS

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration
Director of Information Technology

LOGGED

FROM:

Director of Communications

SUBJECT:

Visit by Lieutenant General John T. Myers to
Agency Communications Facilities

1. The Office of Communications (OC) will host a visit by the Commanding General, Defense Communications Agency, and Manager of the National Communications System (NCS), Lieutenant General John T. Myers, and his party to the Agency communications facilities the afternoon of 6 January 1988. In our discussions, General Myers has indicated a desire to also visit the communications facilities at Langley earlier that same day. Accordingly, the following schedule is suggested:

1030 hours - General Myers and party arrive Langley via staff car. D/CO will meet and escort to DDA conference room where D/OIT will provide overview briefing. After briefing, D/OIT will provide tour of Communications Operations Center and Crisis Communications Center. (DDA conference room has been reserved for 1030 hours.)

1130 hours - Courtesy visit with DDA followed by lunch in Executive Dining Room.

1300 hours - Depart from Pentagon via helicopter accompanied by D/CO for brief visit to

1400 hours -

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25X1 SUBJECT: Visit by Lieutenant General John T. Myers to Agency
Communications Facilities [redacted]

25X1 1600 hours - Helicopter pickup of General and party at
25X1 T. I. Martin airfield for return to
Pentagon. D/CO returns via surface with
OC-EXA. [redacted]

25X1 3. Biographic information on the visiting principals and NCS
background information have been included as Attachment A and
Attachment B, respectively. [redacted]

25X1 4. I understand that the above schedule has already been
25X1 cleared on your respective calendars. I look forward to your
joining us. [redacted]

Attachments [redacted]

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National Communications System Background

A National Communications System (NCS) was first mandated in 1963 by President John F. Kennedy as a direct result of events during the Cuban Missile Crisis. President Kennedy and other top officials were frustrated by their inability to communicate quickly and reliably with U.S. military and government agencies, with diplomatic corps overseas, and with heads of foreign governments. The NCS was originally envisioned as a single integrated telecommunications system that would be designed and implemented by the "linking together" of selected government communication systems to meet the Federal Government's most critical telecommunication needs.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan, recognizing the evolutionary nature of the NCS, signed Executive Order 12472, which created a new NCS structure comprised of an Executive Agent, a Manager, and a Committee of Principals. Executive Order 12472 also revised the NCS mission and organization, and established an NCS with 22 member organizations.

Paramount in the NCS mission is the development of a survivable and enduring national telecommunications infrastructure capable of supporting national leadership functions throughout all levels of stress. To this end, the NCS is in the process of developing programs to meet its critical National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) responsibilities.

Our Agency is fully supportive of the NCS. We provide two full time detailees to the NCS staff in accordance with a signed Memorandum of Agreement, and additionally, other members of our OC staff serve on several subcommittees and working groups which facilitate the Council of Representatives (COR)/Committee of Principals (COP) process.

Topics of Concern

- As the number and scope of NCS programs and activities expand, the responsibilities and workload of the COP and COR has also expanded.
- National Security Decision Directive No. 201 establishes that all member agencies will "share" in funding the National Level Program. Although our share is small in comparison to the total cost, it does have the possibility of growing to a substantial amount. In the long run, the "shared funding" concept could be detrimental to NCS's efforts in developing NSEP programs.

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- A significant consequence of the AT&T divestiture is the need to convert from the current Restoration Priority (RP) system to a new Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) system. The development of TSP will require considerable effort by several offices within the Agency.
- As NSEP development efforts progress, the NCS is requesting more and more data from member organizations. Security constraints restrict the amount of data we can provide, and reduce the ability of NCS programs to meet our particular NSEP needs.